

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 190735Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 414

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION USNATO

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 6412

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: US ACTION REARDING TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS

1. ALTHOUGH WE MUST CONTINUE TO COPE WITH CONSTANT DAILY ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS, OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY REAMIN IN SOMETHING OF A HOLDING PATTERN FOLLOWING THE PRECEPITOUS DROP CAUSED BY THE JULY 24 CONGRESSIONAL REFUSAL TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO. DESPITE FORMER PRIMIN ECEVIT'S PERIODIC GOADING OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT TO FURTHER ACTION AGAINST US, THIS HOLDING PATTERN IS LIKELY TO REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE NEXT KEY TURNING POINT IS REACHED, NAMELY, THE UPCOMING HOUSE VOTE ON THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WHICH IS WIDELY EXPECTED HERE TO TAKE PLACE SOME TIME IN SEPTEMBER (AMBASSADOR ESENBEL IS TELLING TURK OFFICIALS THAT IT WILL COME IN EARLY SEPTEMBER).

2. EVEN IF THE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE AUTHORIZES A LIFTING OF THE
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EMBARGO, WE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT OF COURSE BE ABLE TO RETURN

TO THE SITUATION WE HAD ENJOYED HERE BEFORE THE EMBARGO LEGISLATION WAS ENACTED. TOO MUCH DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE TO PERMIT THIS. THE BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR IS THAT SUCH A VOTE WILL SIGNAL THE BEGINNING OF A LONG, DIFFICULT AND GRUDGING JOURNEY BACK TOWARD (BUT CONSIDERABLY SHORT OF) THE RELATIONSHIP WE ONCE ENJOYED. THE FORM OF THAT RELATIONSHIP IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE CHANGED EXTENSIVELY; SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES SHOULD BE LESS FAR-REACHING BUT WILL NEVERTHELESS BE SIGNIFICANT. THE IMPORTANT POINT, HOWEVER, IS THAT DESPITE THESE NEGATIVE, A FAVORABLE HOUSE VOTE WILL START US ON THE ROAD BACK. WHILE THIS WILL BE A FRUSTRATING PROCESS, IT WILL BRING WITH IT THE POSSIBILITY OF RECONSTRUCTING AN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL (IF MORE LIMITED) RELATIONSHIP.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE NEXT HOUSE VOTE CONFIRMS THE EMBARGO, THEN WE WILL HAVE IN EFFECT RUN OUT OF "RUNNING ROOM" HERE. BY THAT I MEAN THE FORCES IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH HAVE FAVORED RESTRAINT WITH RESPECT TO GOT COUNTERMEASURES WILL HAVE LOST THEIR CONTROL OF THE SITUATION AND WE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE FACED SIMPLY WITH SUSPENSION, BUT RATHER WITH THE DISMANTLING OF MUCH THAT IS IMPORTANT IN THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE HERE. THIIIS WILL NOT, IN MY JUDGEMENT, LEAD TO A 100 PERCENT WIPE-OUT BY ANY MEANS, BUT IT WILL RESULT IN A SIGNIFICANT ELIMINATION OF MANY U.S. ACTIVITIES. MOREOVER, IT WILL POISON IN A FUNDAMENTAL WAY, A RELATIONSHIP WHICH IS ALREADY UNDER MUCH GREATER PRESSURE THAN APPEARS ON THE SURFACE.

4. GIVEN ALL THAT IS RIDING ON THIS NEXT CONGRESSIONAL VOTE, THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND THAT I BE INSTRUCTED TO MEET WITH THE FONMIN AND TO URGE THAT THE GOT USE IT INFLUENCE TO PRODUCE PROGRESS AT THE SEPTEMBER 8/9 CLERIDES/DENKTASH MEETINGS IN NEW YORK. SEPTELS HAVE POINTED OUT THE INHIBITIONS WHICH GOT IS CURRENTLY OPERATING UNDER IN THIS REGARD, BUT IMPORTANCE OF THIS NEXT HOUSE VOTE, AND BENEFICIAL EFFECT THE CLERIDES/DENKTASH PROGRESS MIGHT HAVE WITH RESPECT TO IT, STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT SUCH AN APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE.
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